2018

Honors Vocab List 12

Hear the words for this Unit pronounced, defined, and used in sentences at **www.vocabularyworkshop.com**.

UNIT 12

Note carefully the spelling, pronunciation, part(s) of speech, and definition(s) of each of the following words. Then write the word in the blank space(s) in the illustrative sentence(s) following. Finally, study the lists of synonyms and antonyms given at the end of each entry.

1. abdicate
(ab′ də kāt)

(*v.*) to resign, formally give up an office or a duty; to disown, discard

Of all England's monarchs, Edward VIII was the only one to _____ the throne voluntarily.

SYNONYMS: step down, relinquish, renounce
ANTONYM: retain

2. bestow
(bi stō′)

(*v.*) to give as a gift; to provide with lodgings

The nation will _____ its highest civilian honor on the noted educator.

SYNONYMS: grant, confer, lodge, put up
ANTONYMS: receive, take, take back, take away

3. capacious
(kə pā′ shəs)

(*adj.*) able to hold much, roomy

Whenever I go beach-combing, I take along a backpack with _____ compartments and pockets.

SYNONYMS: spacious, commodious
ANTONYMS: cramped, confined, restricted, narrow

4. caustic
(kô′ stik)

(*adj.*) able to burn or eat away by chemical action; biting, sarcastic

All _____ household liquids, such as drain cleaners, must be kept out of the reach of children.

SYNONYMS: burning, corrosive, sharp
ANTONYMS: bland, mild, sugary, saccharine

5. crusade
(krü sād′)

(*n.*) a strong movement to advance a cause or idea; (*v.*) to campaign, work vigorously

Rachel Carson's landmark book *Silent Spring* sparked the _____ to ban the use of DDT.

The people who _____ for civil rights in America during the 1960s came from all walks of life.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) campaign, organized movement

6. deface
(di fās′)

(*v.*) to injure or destroy the surface or appearance of; to damage the value, influence, or effect of; to face down, outshine

In many towns, those who _____ walls with graffiti must pay a fine and clean up the mess.

SYNONYMS: mar, disfigure
ANTONYMS: repair, restore, renovate, recondition

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7. embargo
(em bär′ gō)

(*n.*) an order forbidding the trade in or movement of commercial goods; any restraint or hindrance; (*v.*) to forbid to enter or leave port; to forbid trade with

The U.S. Congress may impose an _____ against a country that violates trade agreements.

In wartime, the president may _____ goods from countries that trade with the nation's enemies.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) stoppage, ban, boycott

8. fallacy
(fal′ ə sē)

(*n.*) a false notion or belief; an error in thinking

Reviewers cited several major _____ in the controversial author's newest book.

SYNONYM: misconception
ANTONYMS: sound reasoning, logic

9. levity
(lev′ ə tē)

(*n.*) a lack of seriousness or earnestness, especially about things that should be treated with respect; buoyancy, lightness in weight

A bit of _____ may help you to cope with difficult people or situations.

SYNONYMS: giddiness, flippancy, frivolity, fickleness
ANTONYMS: seriousness, humorlessness, solemnity

10. mendicant
(men′ də kənt)

(*n.*) beggar; (*adj.*) depending on begging for a living

People who have fallen on hard times may have no choice but to become _____.

_____ friars roamed the streets of medieval towns and cities, asking for coins.

SYNONYM: (*n.*) panhandler
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) millionaire, philanthropist

11. nauseate
(nô′ zē āt)

(*v.*) to make sick to the stomach; to fill with disgust

The fumes that _____ everyone in the building were traced to a faulty heating system.

SYNONYMS: sicken, disgust
ANTONYMS: delight, tickle pink

12. negate
(ni gāt′)

(*v.*) to nullify, deny, bring to nothing

One offensive remark may well _____ the goodwill a politician has built up among voters.

SYNONYMS: cancel, invalidate, annul
ANTONYMS: affirm, confirm, corroborate, buttress

13. pivotal
(piv′ ət əl)

(*adj.*) vitally important, essential

The D day invasion was _____ to the Allies' eventual victory in Europe in World War II.

SYNONYMS: crucial, critical, decisive, seminal
ANTONYMS: unimportant, insignificant

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14. recipient
(ri sip′ ē ənt)

(*n.*) one who receives; (*adj.*) receiving; able or willing to receive

The first American _____ of the Nobel Prize for literature was the novelist Sinclair Lewis.

A long list of _____ charities may benefit from a wealthy individual's generosity.

SYNONYMS: (*n.*) receiver, beneficiary
ANTONYMS: (*n.*) donor, benefactor, contributor

15. ruse
(rüz)

(*n.*) an action designed to confuse or mislead, a trick

Thieves employ a variety of _____ to gain entrance to homes and apartments.

SYNONYMS: stratagem, subterfuge, dodge

16. teem
(tēm)

(*v.*) to become filled to overflowing; to be present in large quantities

Our national parks _____ with visitors during the summer months.

SYNONYMS: abound, swarm, overflow
ANTONYMS: lack, be wanting

17. tenet
(ten′ ət)

(*n.*) an opinion, belief, or principle held to be true

One of the primary _____ of medicine is to do no harm to the sick and injured.

SYNONYMS: doctrine, precept

18. tractable
(trak′ tə bəl)

(*adj.*) easily managed, easy to deal with; easily wrought, malleable

A _____ colleague is preferable to one who is unwilling to cooperate or compromise.

SYNONYMS: submissive, docile, yielding, amenable
ANTONYMS: unruly, obstreperous, refractory

19. ungainly
(ən gān′ lē)

(*adj.*) clumsy, awkward; unwieldy

The first time I tried to ice-skate, my movements were hesitant and _____.

SYNONYM: graceless
ANTONYMS: nimble, agile, supple, graceful

20. voracious
(vô rā′ shəs)

(*adj.*) having a huge appetite, greedy, ravenous; excessively eager

Newly hatched caterpillars are _____ eaters of leafy green plants.

SYNONYMS: gluttonous, insatiable, avid
ANTONYMS: indifferent, apathetic

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From the words for this unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

1. It was not hard for his opponents to shoot holes in his argument because the _____ it contained were as plain as day.
2. I have never seen a car with a trunk _____ enough to hold all the luggage you want to take on any trip.
3. The president placed a(n) _____ on the sale of arms to the two nations at war.
4. A ruler who has lost the support of the people may choose to _____ and live in exile.
5. The horse was often hard to manage, but he was _____ as long as he was headed in the direction of the barn.
6. Your attempts at _____ during the most serious moments of the dedication ceremony were decidedly out of place.
7. Whenever I pass a group of homeless _____ huddled in a doorway, I give them my spare change.
8. San Francisco is a city that _____ with color and places of historical interest.
9. Dad said that he liked the fig-banana pie I had concocted, but the funny look on his face as he tasted it _____ his words.
10. If any of the _____ substance gets on your clothing, wash it off with lukewarm water to prevent it from eating away the fabric.
11. Early in this century, reform-minded journalists called *muckrakers* _____ vigorously against corruption in government.
12. Don't expect a wealthy old lady to _____ a fortune on you for helping her across the street, particularly if she doesn't want to cross it.
13. She is such a(n) _____ reader that she often has a book propped up in front of her while she is eating.
14. A fundamental _____ of democracy is that all people are equal before the law.
15. Although seals and sea lions are _____ on land, they are extremely graceful in the water.
16. Though a number of people may be nominated for a particular Oscar each year, usually only one of them is the actual _____ of it.
17. The noise in the crowded train station gave me a headache, and the foul odor _____ me.

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18. For thousands of years, thoughtless tourists have _____ monuments of the past by writing or carving their initials on them.
19. Since the Greeks could not capture Troy by force, they resorted to the celebrated _____ of the wooden horse to take the city.
20. Our hard-fought victory over South High was the _____ game of the season because it gave us the self-confidence we needed to win the championship.

Synonyms

*Choose the word from this unit that is **the same** or **most nearly the same** in meaning as the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.*

1. a **doctrine** that we live by _____
2. acts of cruelty that **sickened** us all _____
3. possesses a **biting** wit _____
4. the **campaign** to end poverty _____
5. had good reason to **cancel** the agreement _____
6. a group of ragged **beggars** _____
7. **bans** on counterfeit designer goods _____
8. the oldest **trick** in the book _____
9. a theory based entirely on **misconceptions** _____
10. their **insatiable** thirst for knowledge _____
11. took a series of **awkward** steps _____
12. a **crucial** moment in the nation's history _____
13. sole **beneficiary** of a sizable fortune _____
14. forced to **step down** _____
15. a place that **swarms** with insects _____

Antonyms

*Choose the word from this unit that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.*

16. surprised by the **seriousness** of your remarks _____
17. a thoroughly **unruly** individual _____
18. housed in **cramped** quarters _____
19. **repaired** the priceless antique _____
20. **received** many special favors and privileges _____

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Vocabulary in Context

Read the following passage, in which some of the words you have studied in this unit appear in ***boldface*** *type. Then complete each statement given below the passage by circling the letter of the item that is* ***the same*** *or* ***almost the same*** *in meaning as the highlighted word.*

(Line)

Playing It Again

"So, Mom, now that we've loaded that **ungainly** old jukebox into the back of the van, where are we taking it?" I asked.

"The lucky **recipient** is going to be the Musical Museum in Deansboro. That's in upstate New York, near Utica," Mom answered.

(5) "Musical Museum? You know I love music," I said. "But what fun is it looking at a bunch of antique instruments locked away in display cases? And besides, this old piece of junk doesn't even work anymore."

"I expect that they'll be able to fix it," replied Mom.

(10) "This isn't a stuffy, formal museum. It **teems** with odd instruments and mechanical music-making devices. Most have been repaired and restored so that interested visitors can actually play them."

"Yeah, right," I said with a **caustic** tone. "I suppose

(15) people just waltz into the place, grab an instrument, and start making beautiful music, just like that." I snapped my fingers in the air.

"Just about! Most of the items in the collection are automatic instruments that work with the help of

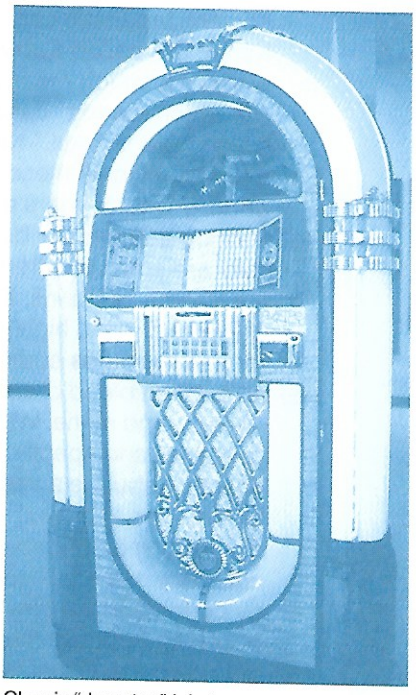
(20) gears, motors, magnets, and switches. They play themselves," said Mom. "The Musical Museum was originally a local man's collection of unusual contraptions that make music. He was a **voracious** collector, and soon his house was filled to overflowing

(25) with musical gizmos. Eventually, he found a space **capacious** enough to hold his growing collection. Today, the museum has seventeen rooms devoted to the display of music boxes, jukeboxes, melodeons and harmoniums, old record players, player pianos,

(30) and other devices. I think you'll really like it."

"So—hit the road, Jack!" I sang, grinning broadly.

Mom was delighted. "Ah, that's music to my ears," she said.



Classic "dometop" jukebox

1. The meaning of **ungainly** (line 1) is
a. unwieldy c. battered
b. colorful d. costly

2. Recipient (line 3) mostly nearly means
a. donor c. customer
b. owner d. receiver

3. Teems (line 10) is best defined as
a. plays c. overflows
b. sings d. starts

4. Caustic (line 14) most nearly means
a. sugary c. solemn
b. sarcastic d. silly

5. Voracious (line 23) most nearly means
a. avid c. occasional
b. dedicated d. smart

6. Capacious (line 26) is best defined as
a. narrow c. inexpensive
b. sunny d. roomy